

Pocket Pillows

Fun sewing craft for all ages and a great gift for all ages!

Pocket can contain a book, coloring books and crayons, journal and pens, the ideas are endless!

What you will need:

Fabric: 2 half yard pieces of coordinating fabric.

1 inch wide x 10 inches long webbing for handle (or uses matching fabric.)

16 x 16 pillow form

Piping

18 inch zipper (longer is OK)

Thread

Scissors

Iron/ironing board

Sewing machine



Cutting fabric:

Zipper closing:

Cut 2 pieces 16 x 16 inches for front and back of pillow

Cut 2 pieces 16 x 11 inches for pocket cut 1 piece of

piping 16 in*

*(if you don't want to do piping, cut the pocket to 16 x 20 inches and fold in half so pocket is now 16 x 10 inches. The folded edge will be top of pocket.)

Trim webbing to 10 inches or cut from matching fabric a 10 x 4-inch rectangle

Envelope closing: Instead of adding a zipper you can use the envelope closing method. Instead of cutting 2- 16 x 16 inch pieces, cut 1 16 x 16 inch piece and with same or coordinating fabric cut 2 16 x 12 inch pieces for back of pillow. Fold over ¼ inch twice on 1-16 in side of each back piece. Press and stitch along edge.

Place one 1/2 of back right sides together on front of pillow. Pin in place. Then place the other ½ on right side down, overlapping the other ½ of back piece. Pin. Stitch around pillow. Clip corners and turn. Stuff Pillow form into back and overlap closing the pillow in.

Assembly:

¼ inch seam allowance.

Pocket: Pin piping to one side of pocket at top of pocket (16-inch edge) and sew using a piping foot or zipper foot would work too.

Match upper edge with right sides together of pocket and using the piping foot, stitch the back side of pocket on.



Turn and press.

(If you don't use piping, fold pocket in half, wrong sides together and press.)

You can add ribbon, or a pretty lace etc. along the top of pocket if you wish.

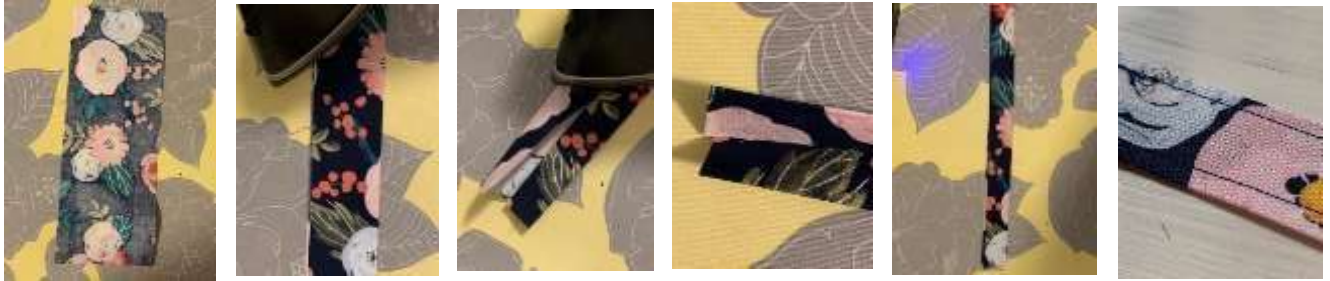
Lay back side of pocket to right side of front of pillow matching raw edges on sides and bottom. Pin. Stitch. Reinforce top edges of pocket. If you want to make a small pocket for a flash light or book light,



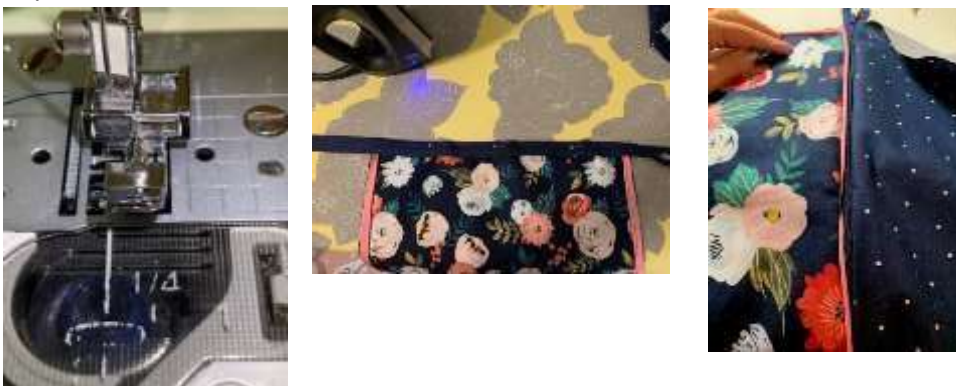
pens, etc., sew from top of pocket reinforcing at top of pocket.

Optional handle: if using webbing, place raw edges about 5-6 inches in on raw edges at top of pillow. Pin in place and then stitch with a scant ¼ in seam.

Optional Handle with matching fabric: Fold fabric in half the long way wrong sides together. Press. Open and fold raw edges to center fold, press. Fold on original center fold and stitch along long edges close to edge. Place handles same as above.



Zipper: Lay zipper right side to right side of pillow front along bottom edge. Zipper ends can and should be too long. (You will see why it doesn't matter when we are finished). Pin. Stitch with zipper foot. Open zipper and match right side of backing to right side of zipper, pin in place, stitch. Open zipper enough to get your hand in.



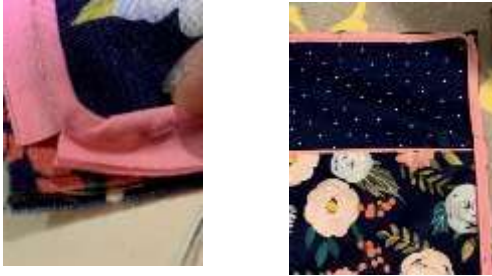
Match right sides to right sides of pillow with zipper at bottom and handles tucked inside of pillow and pin edges. Stitch all 3 sides and sew over zipper and few times. If zipper is very long, you can cut off the excess.



Clip corners. Stick hand in through zipper and unzip all the way. Turn pillow case and push out corners. Insert pillow form, zip closed and add a book! Done!

Options: use a fusible fleece interfacing for light fabrics to add more stability.

Piping- If you want to add piping to edge of pillow and great tip I learned on a Youtube video is to clip the corner and you will get a nice squared off corner.



Add names to front, embellish with buttons, applique, decorative stitches...

Pillows can also be made in different sizes. For a 10 inch pillow, cut fabric 10 X 10 in and pocket 10 x 6 if using piping or 10 x 12 if folding in half.

Pillow for is larger, just cut fabric same size as pillow form and adjust pocket to fit. A larger pillow gives you the opportunity divide the pocket to add to books, crayons, pens etc.



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